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No. T - 4 - 10

Hawkesbury, Ontario,
Box 644.

30th November 1962.

Mr. Lance J. Smith,
Chairman to the
Committee on Municipal Tax Structure,
Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

Dear Sir:

This is a small contribution to this Committee if I may.

In checking over the assessment and tax structure for this farm of one hundred and fifty acres in one block and bought in three transactions as it were available, I find the assessment averages one dollar an acre. This I find is a fair average and as it were forty years ago. On expropriation we have built a reasonable ranch home on one floor 83-33 feet, and will pay an assessment of twenty-two dollars month rent. I feel this is high considering the governments boasting better homes. Now lets add, and I'm wondering if it pays to build a family chicken house for say one hundred chickens, unless it looks bad. With further barn and stables, well house, and other farm buildings a farmer needs in assessment, with a stock yet to earn. It can run near the two hundred dollars more.

Bare of buildings and animals, with hillside of bush and brush the balance of this land yielded an income of five-hundred dollars of hay, sold on the field, on good clay soil, in a good year, and only four this past dry summer. The sandy soil or that on hilltop would average five to six hundred dollars at the most in seed oats, less yearly refurnished soil conditioner, work and gasoline.

One problem existing now, is that the income tax department does not allow the cost of brushing on the farm, which cost plenty of money and effort. I would like to see this expenditure again recognized. Much has to be done everywhere, especially where land was neglected and resold. Another thing I deplore is the new law on assessment for women's appliances such as washers and dryers. That I feel is a prejudice. They are expensive and many or most men cannot afford them for their family, especially those who need it most, where the family is large and more work is required, let alone paying assessment on the appliance every year to come. A mother is human and popping her head in and out of an upstairs window, or leaving babies inside alone is often times more than misery.

I would consider assessment for running water, in a home, even though, we paid for drilling our well and monthly rates to Hydro to have it pumped in our house, but, if farmers need a spare washroom or shower in the cellar or elsewhere, that should be our business. We are paying for a health department as it is. By instinct people like to be clean, let us afford to. Farm work is grimy and time is limied, let us have the outlets if we pay for the pumping.

Hoping that this first hand knowledge, may be of some service to our Ontarios Committee.

Yours truly,

Signature

(Mrs.) Lena Campbell Menard.

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